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REVIEW - NORTHERN FLOOD AGREEMENT

July 31, 1981

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NORTHERN FLOOD AGREEMENT - CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

BUILDING A CASE FOR NEGOTIATION

Early 1960's:

Canada and Manitoba agreed to share equally in costs of investigating power potential and power sites in Northern Manitoba.

February 15, 1966:

Canada and Manitoba signed an agreement for the construction of a massive Hydro development project. (Canada agreed to build high voltage transmission lines as its contribution).

January, 1969:

Public meeting (first) in Winnipeg - hearing on flooding implications of Hydro project. Advised that: Water level was to be raised 35 to 40 feet - strong reactional support from church, environmental and university groups.

June, 1969:

Change in Manitoba Government ultimately caused Manitoba Hydro to make a number of alterations to its construction plans and to compensate the community for damages as a result of flooding.

November, 1970:

Licence granted to Manitoba Hydro by Province to proceed with Churchill River diversion plans.

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NORTHERN RIVER AGREEMENT - CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

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June, 1973:

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August 8, 1973:

Honourable Jean Chretien presented his statement on Claims of Indian and Inuit people.

April 23, 1974:

At a meeting in Thompson, a "flood" committee was formed. (Nelson House, Split Lake, Cross Lake, Norway House, South Indian Lake, and York Landing) - called "The Churchill-Nelson-Lake Winnipeg Flood Committee."

DEVELOPING A MEDIATION PROCESS

May, 1974:

DIAND agreed to fund the Northern Flood Committee (N.F.C.) on the basis of a budget to be prepared by the Committee.

July, 1974:

N.F.C. information workshop in Winnipeg (all parties). N.F.C. selected its own lawyer. Fall and winter 1974-75, lawyer commenced negotiations with Manitoba and Canada.

February 24, 1975:

N.F.C., Premier Ed Schreyer, and General Manager of Manitoba Hydro meet and N.F.C. was recognized as the sole negotiating body for the Indians.

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March 3, 1975:

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February 13, 1976:

Mediation Agreement was signed. Leon Mitchell, Q.C., appointed as mediator - five reserves visited by mediator.

REACHING AN AGREEMENT

September 16, 1976:

Draft agreement in principle was developed. Four (4) principal clauses were:

(1) substitution of provincial crown lands for the 2,000 to 3,000 acres likely to be flooded under a 4 to 1 formula;

(2) continuing compensation to be paid through an economic development corporation as a royalty on operating capacity or production from Hydro projects;

(3) hunting and fishing rights in specified off-reserve areas;

(4) compensation of all costs incurred by N.F.C.

December 16, 1977:

The Northern Flood Agreement was signed by all parties. Voting to ratify the Agreement took place in each of the five communities on March 15, 1978.

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December 16, 1977 (cont'd):

The obligations of Government of Canada pursuant to the agreement involved a number of departments:

DIAND
National Health and Welfare
Department of Regional Economic Expansion
Transport Canada
Environment Canada
Canada Immigration and Employment

IMPLEMENTATION

March 21, 1980:

Northern Flood Agreement arbitrator appointed - Patrick Ferg, County Court Judge, Province of Manitoba.

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Chronology of events.

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